SUBJECTS.

and providing it with a good landing place for goods.

More than a lac of people, from the taluks of Parur and Alengad, resorted there. More than 200 boats came there on market days, but there were no proper landing ghauts. The Member further stated that, during flood time, one-half of the place was under water and the current of the stream was too strong to admit of boats halting there. Under the circumstances, he urged the necessity for improving the market place and the landing ghaut.

*Dewan.*—An estimate will be called for from the Chief Engineer.

53. The necessity for protecting the Quilon beach from Vady to Kochupilamoodu from the encroachments of the sea by putting up suitable groynes and for improving the portion adjoining the Butts and the Rifle Range grounds into a Marina.

*Mr. P. Kesava Pillai*, B. A. & B. L. (Member, T. I. C., Quilon) represented that, of late, the sea at Quilon between Thangacherry and Kochupilamoodu was rapidly advancing. The sea had been advancing for the last 50 years, at the rate of 15 ft. per year, and at this rate it was likely to wash away 1,000 to 2,000 trees and as many huts within a few years, if not prevented. The places where the encroachments were apprehended most, were near Kochupilamoodu and west of the cutcherry. The Member proposed, as a protective measure, the construction of 10 suitable groynes, the cost of which could not be regarded as very high, considering the seriousness of the situation.

*Dewan.*—The D. P. W. is watching the action of the sea with great care. I shall see that the matter is not lost sight of.

## VI. Public Health.

### (1) Town Improvement Committees.

54. The necessity for enlarging the powers of the Town Improvement Committees.

*Mr. A. M. Kumara Pillai*, B. A. & B. L. (Member, T. I. C., Nagercoil) stated that, in view of the growing demands upon the Committees and their inability to meet them, the powers of the Committees should be enlarged in the matter of spending the allotted amounts and in the matter of appointments. He said that, in cases of urgency, when it was not possible to obtain the previous sanction of the Government to appropriate the amount under one item towards another, it must be left to the discretion of the Committee to spend the amount subject to the Budget control of the Government. As regards the power of appointments, the Member said that the President, who had his headquarters at Padmanabhapuram, would be unable to control the working of the staff, and that effective working was possible only if the Committee was empowered in the matter of appointments, fines, &c.

*Dewan's reply.*—If there is a surplus under any major head, you have only to send up a re-appropriation

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